

Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart and 34 Air Medals, among others. He went on to the California National Guard, serving as a Crew Chief in the 126th Helicopter Company. He was extremely proud of his military service, and particularly enjoyed coordinating the Vietnam Darkhorse project.

David then became a certified EMT and worked in the public ambulance sector as a paramedic from 1980 to 2001. He served first as a volunteer, then as an employee at the North Shore Fire Protection District, Lucerne Station from 2001 to 2007. He held a variety of positions with the Fire Protection District, including Paramedic, Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Fire Officer, Weapons of Mass Destruction Instructor/Trainer, and Captain. His tireless efforts led him to be recognized as Firefighter of the Year.

David will always be known as someone who loved his family and his community dearly. He is remembered by those who knew him as a superlative husband, father, and grandfather; as a caring brother, a respected comrade, a spirited co-worker, a true friend, a loyal employee and an honest neighbor.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, David Fesmire's contributions to our country and the community of Lake County are immeasurable. His presence will be missed even as his legacy endures.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITEWATER FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater football team for their courageous and improbable victory in the 35th Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl to capture the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III national championship.

With Salem Stadium as the backdrop, Whitewater capped off an incredible season by beating the undefeated and top-ranked Mount Union College Purple Raiders to give the university its first football national championship. The Warhawks' third trip to Salem, Va., in as many years proved to be the charm. Mount Union had defeated Whitewater in each of the previous two Stagg Bowl games en route to a 37-game winning streak that has now been snapped thanks to the tremendous dedication and determination of all the Warhawk players, coaches, staff, and fans.

To add to his already long list of accolades including 2007 Gagliardi Trophy winner, National Player of the Year Justin Beaver was named the game's Most Outstanding Player. Beaver carried the ball 31 times for 249 yards and a touchdown, raising his season rushing total to 2,455 yards and breaking the previous Division III record he set two years ago. Beaver's play was complimented by the strong performance of the 22 other seniors who took the field for the last time at the Stagg Bowl.

In a phenomenal first season, head coach Lance Leipold led Whitewater to a 14-1 record, going undefeated in league play to secure the Warhawks' third straight Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title.

Leipold took the reins of a storied program with a rich history that includes the likes of long-time coaches Bob Berezowitz and stadium namesake Forrest Perkins.

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater represents the best of student-athletics and this title serves as a major accomplishment for the entire state of Wisconsin. I sincerely congratulate the team and the university and wish them luck in their quest to repeat as national champions.

TRIBUTE TO THE JOHN WILLIAM JACKSON FUND

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituents, the Jackson family, founders of the John William Jackson Fund.

Boise resident Bill Jackson established the John William Jackson fund seven years ago in honor of his son, John, who died in a rock climbing accident in Central Asia. John William Jackson was known as a free-spirited individual who was passionate about academics, performing arts and outdoor sports. He challenged both himself and those around him to believe in themselves. He pushed them to excel at all that they did and to reach for the stars.

In providing scholarships and activities through the Fund, Bill Jackson has honored his son's memory by continuing to encourage young people to be successful individuals who can make great things happen. Jackson received the nickname "Action" Jackson during his service in Vietnam, and he continues to live up to that nickname through his work with the Fund.

The Jackson Fund has supported youth rock-climbing programs at the YMCA. It has provided new musical instruments to Kuna Middle School, and it has given scholarships to needy students to attend a Boise State University music camp. Just as John Jackson made other people believe in their dreams, the Jackson Fund is giving them the assistance and support to make those dreams a reality.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the achievements and contributions of the John William Jackson Fund and am honored to represent the Jackson family in Congress. Across America, our constituents are donating their time and energy to make a difference in people's lives, and I appreciate the opportunity to highlight one family in my state that is doing just that.

WISHING JESSE ANN LEWIS A HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, Jesse Ann Lewis of Bay City, Texas will celebrate her 100th birthday on January 30. A lifetime resident of Bay City, Mrs. Lewis faithfully served several Bay City families as a domestic serv-

ant. However, Mrs. Lewis's greatest contribution to her community has been her over six decades of service as a missionary for the Enterprise Church. Mrs. Lewis's service to Enterprise Church's congregation enabled her to positively impact the lives of several generations of Bay City residents.

The love and dedication Mrs. Lewis has shown for the people of Bay City is reciprocated in the love and respect the people of Bay City have for Mrs. Lewis. It is therefore a pleasure to wish Mrs. Jesse Ann Lewis a happy 100th birthday as she prepares to celebrate her centennial with a gathering in her beloved Enterprise Church, surrounded by people whose lives were improved by Mrs. Lewis's devotion to her church, her community, and her fellow human beings.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY IN BELARUS OFF TO DISCOURAGING START IN THE NEW YEAR

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, last month, I chaired a Helsinki Commission briefing with a delegation of leading political opposition figures and democratic activists from Belarus. The briefing was entitled, "The Future Belarus: Democracy or Dictatorship" and focused on the prospects for change in a country located in the heart of Europe that has Europe's worst track record with respect to human rights and democracy. Unfortunately, developments since the delegation's visit to Washington have been deeply discouraging and do not bode well for Belarus' democratic future.

One of the young people who testified at the briefing, 19-year-old Zmitser Fedaruk, spoke eloquently of the dangers that young human rights activists face in Belarus. His words were prophetic, as a few days later, back in Belarus, he was beaten and knocked unconscious by riot policemen, then rushed by ambulance to the hospital. Just last week, the Minsk district prosecutor's office in Minsk refused to open an investigation into Zmitser's beating.

A day earlier, my friend Anatoly Lebedka, one of Belarus' staunchest defenders of democratic rights, who also testified before the Commission, was roughed up by Belarusian police as well. It was far from the first time that this leader of the democratic opposition had been beaten up or repressed by the Lukashenka regime. On January 4, the Lukashenka regime banned Anatoly from travelling abroad in what was obviously a politically-motivated decision. Today, Anatoly is in jail serving a 15-day sentence, along with several dozen other pro-democracy and small business advocates who participated in a January 10 protest against restrictions on activities of small businesses. Some of the activists—mostly young people—received injuries during their arrest. Tatyana Tsishkevich, who was severely beaten during her arrest and presented her bloodstained jacket in court, received a 20-day sentence. Arsen Pakhomau, a freelance photo correspondent for "Nasha Niva" weekly—one of the very few remaining independent publications in Belarus—was also